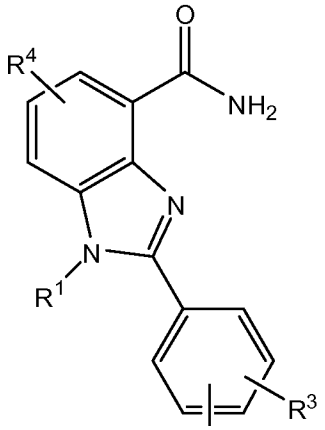
Amendments to the Claims:

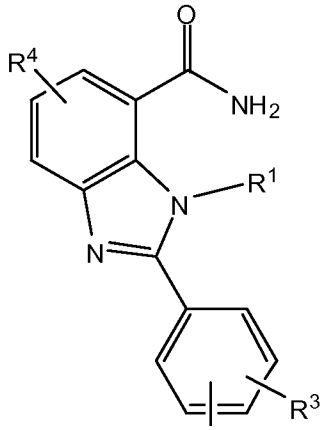
Please amend the claims as specified below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula I or II



I



II

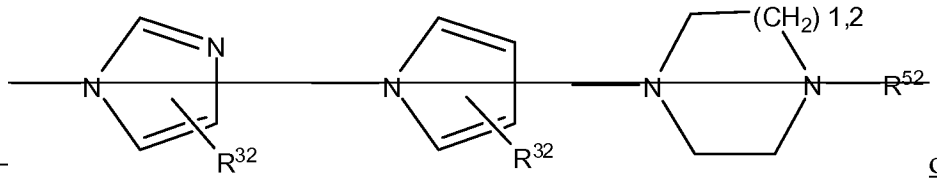
in which

R^1 is hydrogen, or branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5, where R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and

R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3, nitro, $NHCOR^{21}$, $NR^{22}R^{23}$, OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, O-C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, NH_2, ~~CN, a straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^{21}~~ or phenyl, it also being possible for the phenyl rings to be substituted by at most two radicals R^{24}, and R^{21} and R^{22} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and R^{23} is ~~OH, C_1-C_6-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine CF_3, nitro or NH_2~~ hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, or phenyl, and R^{24} is OH, C_1-C_6-alkyl, O-C_1-C_6-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3, nitro or NH_2, and

x may be 0, 1 or 2 and

R^3 is ~~-O-$(CH_2)_o$-$(CHR^{31})_m$-(CH_2)-G, where R^{31} is hydrogen, OH, C_1-C_4-alkyl or O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, m and o are, independently of one another, 0,1 or 2 and n is 1,2,3 or~~



4, or R^3 is

~~D-(F^1)$_p$-(E)$_q$-(F^2)$_r$-G~~ -D-$(F^1)_p$-$(E)_q$-$(F^2)_r$-G, where p, q and r may not simultaneously be 0, or R^3 is ~~E-(D)$_u$-(F^2)$_s$-(G)$_v$~~ -E-$(D)_u$-$(F^2)_s$-$(G)_v$, it also being possible for the radical E to be substituted by one or two radicals A, and if v= 0, E is imidazole, pyrrole, pyridine, pyrimidine, piperazine, pyrazine, pyrrolidine or piperidine, or R^3 is B and

R^4 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, OH, nitro, CF_3, CN, $NR^{41}R^{42}$, NH-CO-R^{43}, or O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, where R^{41} and R^{42} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl and

R^{43} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl or phenyl, and

D is S or O

E is phenyl, imidazole, pyrrole, thiophene, pyridine, pyrimidine, piperazine, pyrazine, furan, thiazole, ~~isoxazole, pyrrolidine. pipendine,~~ isoxazole, pyrrolidine, piperidine, or trihydroazepine, and

F^1 is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it[[,]] also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O-C_1-C_4-alkyl group and

F^2 is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O-C_1-C_4-alkyl group and

p may be 0 or 1

q may be 0 or 1, and

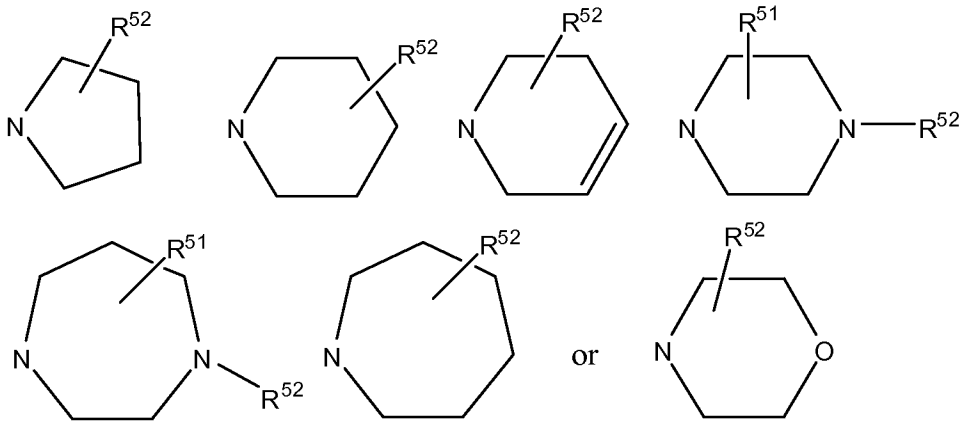
r may be 0 or 1 and

s may be 0 or 1

u may be 0 or ~~1~~ 1

v may be 0 or 1

G may be NR^{51} R^{52} or

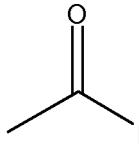


where

R^{51} is hydrogen or branched~~, and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, or ~~$(CH_2)_t$-K~~ $(CH_2)_t$-K

and

R^{52} is hydrogen, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, phenyl, ~~$COCH_3$, $COCF_3$~~,

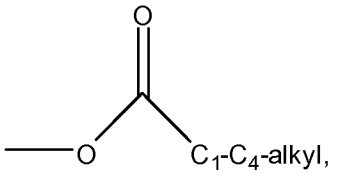


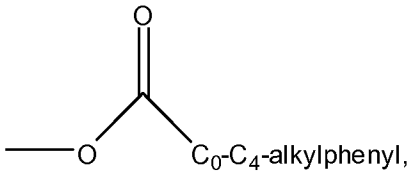
R^{53}, $-SO_2R^{53}$, $-(C=N)-R^{53}$, $-(C=N)-NHR^{53}$ or $-CO-NHR^{53}$

in which

R^{53} may be branched or unbranched O-C_1-C_6-alkyl, phenyl, or branched or unbranched C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, where in the case of R^{52} and R^{53}, independently of one another, one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6-alkyl radical may be ~~substituted~~ replaced by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl ~~and~~ or phenyl, it also being[[.]] possible for the carbocycles of the radicals R^{52} and R^{53} independently of one another to carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, branched or unbranched O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, OH, F, Cl, Br, I, CF_3, NO_2, NH_2, CN, COOH, ~~$COOC_1$-C_4-alkyl~~ $COOC_1$-C_4-alkyl, ~~C_1-C_4-alkylarnino~~ C_1-C_4 alkylamino, CCl_3, C_1-C_4-dialkylamino, SO_2-C_1-C_4-alkyl, SO_2phenyl, $CONH_2$, CONH-C_1-C_4-alkyl, CONHphenyl, CONH-C_1-

C_4alkylphenyl, $NHSO_2$-C_1-C_4-alkyl, $NHSO_2$phenyl, S-C_1-C_4-alkyl,

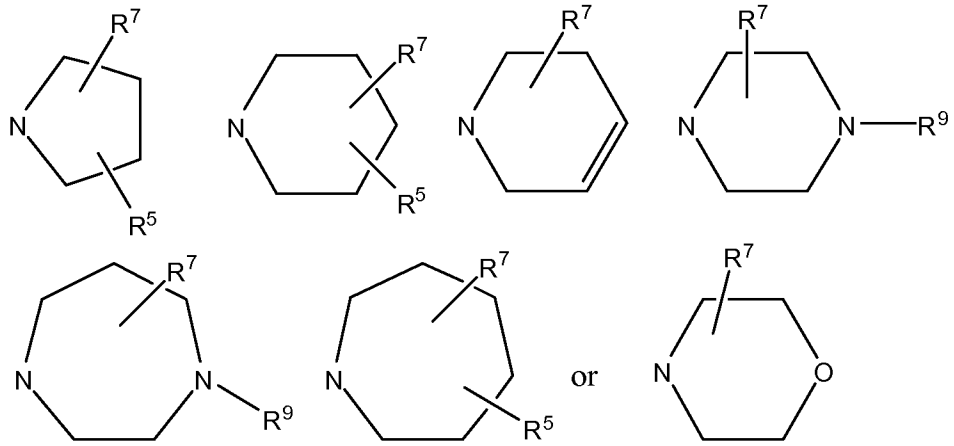




CHO, CH_2-O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, -CH_2O-C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, -CH_2OH, -SO- C_1-C_4-alkyl, -SO- C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, -SO_2NH_2, -SO_2NH- C_1-C_4-alkyl

or two radicals form a bridge –O-$(CH)_{1,2}$-O-,

B may be



and

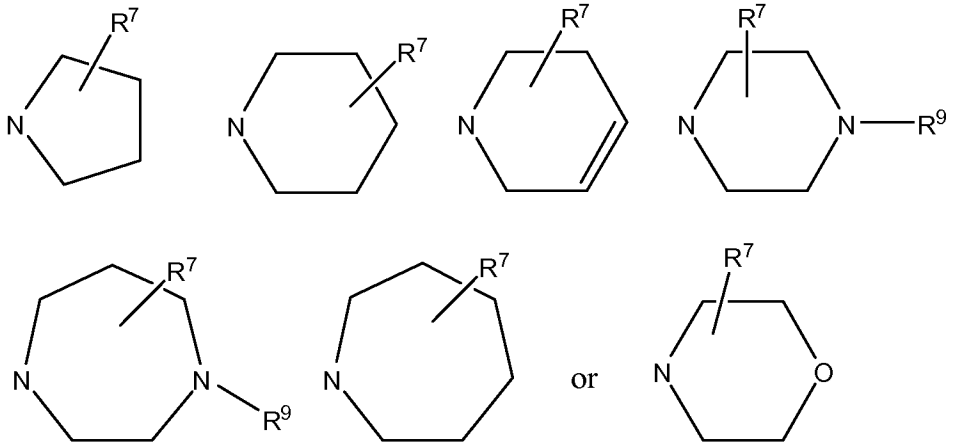
A may be hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3, nitro, OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, O- C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, NH_2, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, CN or NH-CO-R^{33} where R^{33} is hydrogen~~,~~ or C_1-C_4-alkyl~~, or phenyl~~ and

t is 0, 1 , 2, 3 or 4 and

K is a phenyl, which may carry at most two subsitutents on the ring, comprising $NR^{k1}R^{k2}$ ~~where~~ wherein R^{k1} and R^{k2} are as defined for R^{41} and R^{42} respectively, NH-C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, pyrrolidine, piperidine, 1, 2, 5, 6-tetrahydropyridine, morpholine, trihydroazepine, piperazine, which may also be substituted by an ~~alkyl radical~~ C_1-C_6-alkyl radical, or homopiperazine, which may also be substituted by an ~~alkyl radical~~ C_1-C_6-alkyl radical, and ~~C_4-alkylphenyl, pyrrolidine, piperidine, 1, 2, 5, 6-tetrahydropyridine, morpholine, trihydroazepine, piperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C_1-C_6-alkyl, or~~

~~homopiperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C_1-C_6-alkyl,~~ ~~and~~

R^5 may be hydrogen, C_1-C_6-alkyl, or NR^7R^9 and



and

R^7 is hydrogen, ~~C1-C$_6$-alkyl~~ C_1-C_6-alkyl, ~~C1-C$_4$-alkylphenyl~~ C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, or phenyl, it also being possible for the rings to be substituted by up to two radicals R^{71}, and

R^{71} is OH, C_1-C_6-alkyl, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3, nitro, or NH_2, and

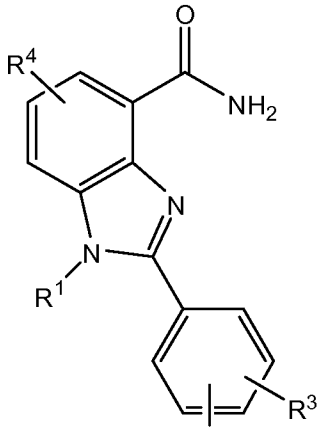
R^8 is hydrogen, C_1-C_6-alkyl, phenyl, or C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, it also being possible for the ring to be substituted by up to two radicals R^{81} and

R^{81} is OH, C_1-C_6-alkyl, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3, nitro, or NH_2 and

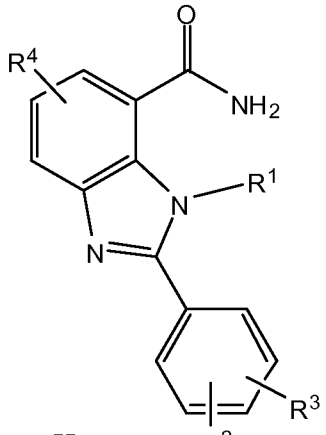
R^9 is hydrogen, $COCH_3$, CO-O- C_1-C_4-alkyl, $COCF_3$, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, it being possible for one or two hydrogens of the ~~C_1-C_6-alky~~ C_1-C_6-alkyl radical to be ~~substituted~~ replaced in each case by one of the following radicals: OH, O- C_1-C_4-alkyl and phenyl, and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals: iodine, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4-alkylamino, C_1-C_4-dialkylamino, OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, CN, CF_3, or SO_2- C_1-C_4-alkyl,

or a tautorneric form, a possible enantiomeric or disasteriomeric form, a prodrug or pharmacologically tolerated salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula I or II ~~as claimed in claim I~~



I



II

in which

R^1 is hydrogen, or branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5, where

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and

R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, nitro, CF_3, CN, $NR^{21}R^{22}$, ~~$NH\text{-}CO\text{-}R^{21}$~~, $NH\text{-}CO\text{-}R^{23}$, or OR^{21}, where

R^{21} ~~is~~ and R^{22} are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and

R^{23} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, OH or O- C_1-C_4-alkyl and

R^3 is ~~$-O\text{-}(CH_2)_o\text{-}(CHR^{31})_m\text{-}(CH_2)_n\text{-}G$~~ $-O\text{-}(CH_2)_o\text{-}(CHR^{31})_m\text{-}(CH_2)_n\text{-}R^5$ where

R^{31} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, OH or O- C_1-C_4-alkyl,

m, o are, independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2, and

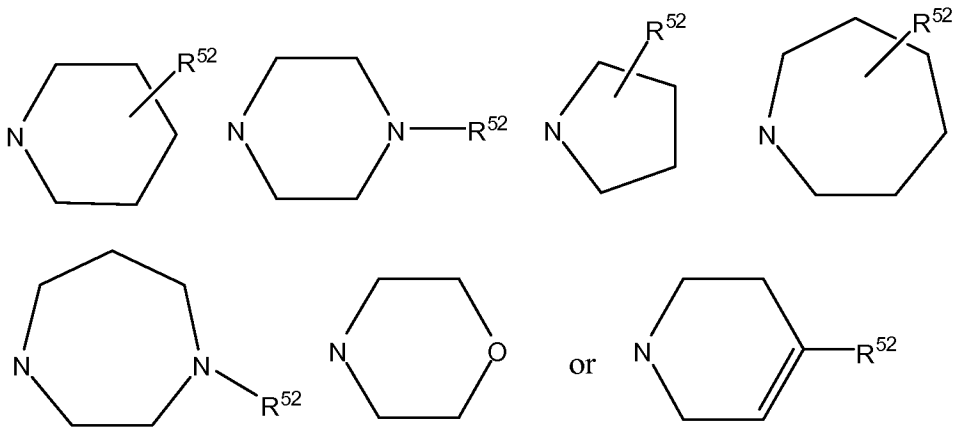
n is 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

R^4 is hydrogen, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano, $NR^{41}R^{42}$, NH-CO-R^{43}, or OR^{41}, where

R^{41} and R^{42} are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and

R^{43} is C_1-C_4-alkyl or phenyl, and

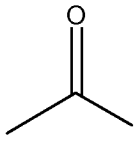
~~G~~ R^5 is $NR^{51}R^{52}$ or one of the following radicals



where

R^{51} is hydrogen or branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, and

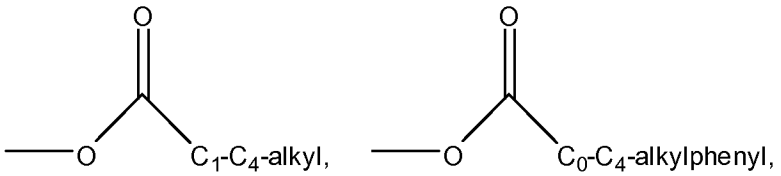
R^{52} is hydrogen, or branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, phenyl,



R^{53}, or $-SO_2R^{53}$, in which

R^{53} is branched or unbranched O-C_1-C_6-alkyl, phenyl, or branched or unbranched C_1-C_4-alkylphenyl, where one hydrogen in the C_1-C_6-alkyl radical in R^{52} and R^{53} are, independently of one another, optionally ~~substituted~~ replaced by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and or phenyl, where the carbocycles of the R^{52} and R^{53} radicals may also, independently of one another, carry one or two of the following radicals:

branched or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, branched or unbranched O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, OH, F, Cl, Br, I, CF_3, NO_2, NH_2, CN, COOH, $COOC_1$-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkylamino, CCl_3, C_1-C_4-dialkylamino, SO_2-C_1-C_4-alkyl, SO_2phenyl, $CONH_2$, CONH-C_1-C_4-alkyl, CONHphenyl, CONH-C_1-C_4alkyl-phenyl, $NHSO_2$-C_1-C_4-alkyl, $NHSO_2$phenyl, S-C_1-C_4-alkyl,

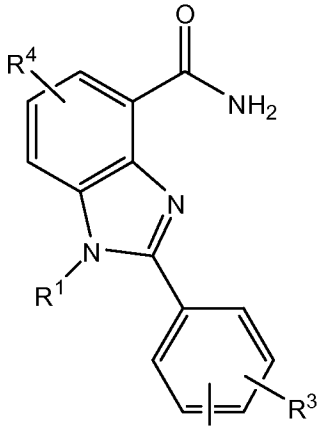


CHO, CH_2-O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, -CH_2O-C_1-C_4-alkyl-phenyl, -CH_2OH, -SO-C_1-C_4-alkyl, -SO-C_1-C_4-alkyl-phenyl, -SO_2NH_2, -SO_2NH-C_1-C_4-alkyl

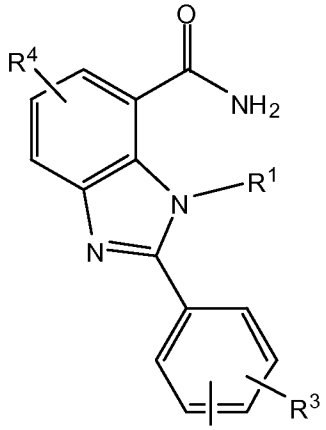
or two radicals form a bridge –O-$(CH)_{1,2}$-O-,

or a tautorneric form, a possible enantiomeric or disasteriomeric form, a prodrug or pharmacologically tolerated salt thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula I or II ~~as claimed in claim 1~~



I



II

in which

R^1 is hydrogen, <u>or</u> branched ~~and~~ <u>or</u> unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5, where

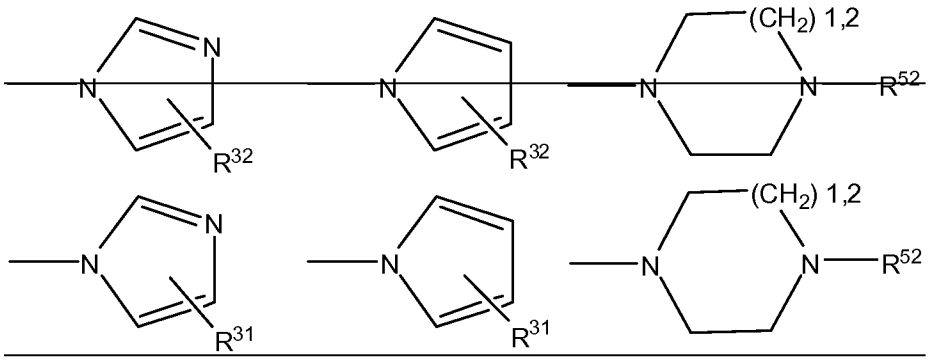
R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and

R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched ~~and~~ <u>or</u> unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, nitro, CF_3, CN, <u>$NR^{21}R^{22}$</u>, ~~NH-CO-R^{21}~~, <u>NH-CO-R^{23}</u>, <u>or</u> OR^{21}, where

R^{21} ~~is~~ <u>and R^{22} are, independently of one another,</u> hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, <u>and</u>

<u>R^{23} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or phenyl, and</u>

R^3 is



and

R^{31} is hydrogen, CHO or –O-$(CH_2)_o$-$(CHR^{32})_m$-$(CH_2)_n$-R^5 where

R^{32} is hydrogen ~~and O-$(CH_2)_o$-$(CHR^{32})_m$-$(CH_2)_n$-G where R^{31} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, OH and O-C_1-C_4alkyl,~~ C_1-C_4-alkyl, OH or O-C_1-C_4-alkyl,

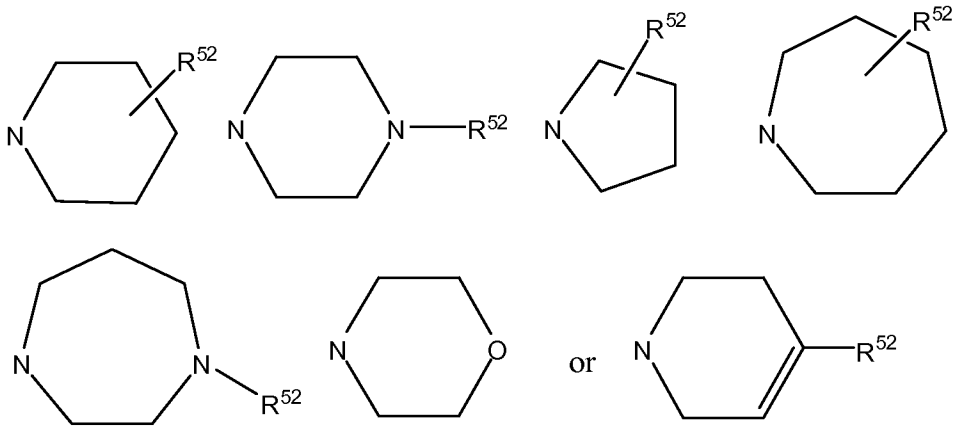
m, o independently of one another are 0, 1 or 2 and n is 1, 2, 3 or 4, and

R^4 is hydrogen, or branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano, $NR^{41}R^{42}$, NH-CO-R^{43}, or OR^{41}, where

R^{41} and R^{42} are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl and

R^{43} is C_1-C_4-alkyl or phenyl, and

~~G~~ R^5 is $NR^{51}R^{52}$ or one of the radicals below



where

R^{51} is hydrogen ~~and~~ or branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, and

R^{52} is hydrogen, $COCH_3$, CO-O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, $COCF_3$, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, it being possible for one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6-alkyl radical to be ~~substituted~~ replaced by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C_1-C_6-alkyl ~~and~~ or

phenyl and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_4-alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4-alkylamino, C_1-C_4-dialkylamino, OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, CN, or SO_2-C_1-C_4-alklyl,

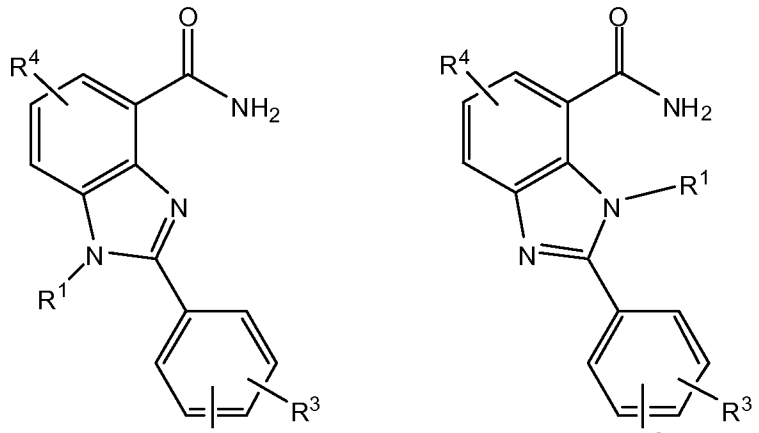
or a tautorneric form, a possible enantiomeric or disasteriomeric form, a prodrug or pharmacologically tolerated salt thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claims 1, 2 and 3 where R^2 is in position 3 and R^3 is in position 4 or R^2 is in position 4 and R^3 is in position 3 relative to the benzimidazole ring.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claims 1, 2 and 3 where R^1 and R^4 are hydrogen.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claims 1, 2 and 3 where R^2 is hydrogen, or branched or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, nitro, CN, NH_2, or O-C_1-C_4-alkyl.

7. (Currently Amended) A compound ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~ of the formula I or II



in which

R^1 is hydrogen, or branched or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5, where

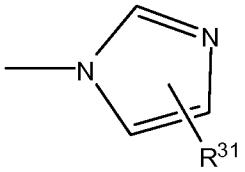
R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and

R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, nitro, CF_3, CN, $NR^{21}R^{22}$, NH-CO-R^{23}, or OR^{21}, where

R^{21} and R^{22} are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, and

R^{23} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or phenyl, and

~~(i) for R^3 being~~ R^3 is



R^{31} is hydrogen or ~~$-(CH_2)_w$ F,~~ $-(CH_2)_p$-R^5, where

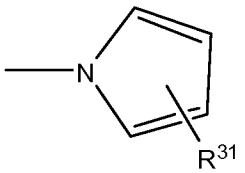
~~w is 1 or 2 and~~

p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, or branched or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6-alkyl radical may be replaced by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched or unbranched C_1-C_4-alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4-alkylamino, C_1-C_4-dialkylamino, OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, CN, or SO_2-C_1-C_4-alkyl;

or

(ii) ~~for R^3 being~~ R^3 is



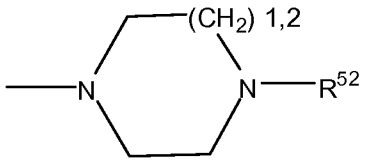
R^{31} is hydrogen or ~~$-(CH_2)_w$ G,~~ $-(CH_2)_p$-R^5, where

p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, or branched or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6-alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched or unbranched C_1-C_4-alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4-alkylamino, C_1-C_4-dialkylamino, OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, CN, or SO_2-C_1-C_4-alkyl;

~~and~~ or

(iii) ~~for R^2 being~~ R^3 is

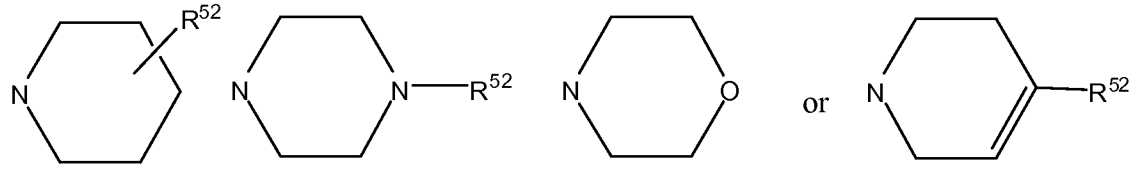


where R^{52}~~,~~ is hydrogen, or branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_6-alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6-alkyl radical may be ~~substituted~~ replaced by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched ~~and~~ or unbranched C_1-C_4-alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4-alkylamino, C_1-C_4-dialkylamino, OH, O-C_1-C_4-alkyl, CN, or SO_2-C_1-C_4-alkyl,

or a tautorneric form, a possible enantiomeric or disasteriomeric form, a prodrug or pharmacologically tolerated salt thereof.

8. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where R^3 is -D-$(F^1)_p$-$(E)_q$-$(F^2)_r$-G, where D is O, F^1 is a C_1-C_4 carbon chain, p is 1, q is 0 and r is 0.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where R^5 is a 6-membered ring selected from



and R^{52} is ~~an optionally substituted~~ a phenyl ring.

10. (Previously Presented) A drug comprising besides conventional vehicles and ancillary substances a compound as claimed in claim 1.

11-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11~~ A method for treating a disorder in which pathologically elevated PARP activities occur, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from said disorder wherein the disorder is stroke ~~and~~ or craniocerebral trauma.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is damage due to~~A method for treating ischemia, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from ischemia.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is~~ A method for treating epilepsy, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from epilepsy.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is damage due to~~A method for treating damage to the kidneys after renal ischemia, damage caused by drug therapy or damage resulting after kidney transplants, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from damage to the kidneys after renal ischemia, damage caused by drug therapy or damage resulting after kidney transplants.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is damage due to~~ A method for treating damage to the heart after cardiac ischemia, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from damage to the heart after cardiac ischemia.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is~~ A method for treating a microinfarct said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from a microinfarct.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is~~ A method for treating under vascularization of critically narrowed coronary arteries said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from under vascularization of critically narrowed coronary arteries.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is~~ A method for treating an acute myocardial infarct and damage during and after medical or mechanical lysis thereof, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from an acute myocardial infarct and damage during and after medical or mechanical lysis thereof.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is~~ A method for treating a tumor, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from a tumor ~~or metastasis I thereof~~.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is~~ A method for treating sepsis, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from sepsis of multiorgan failure.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is~~ A method for treating diabetes mellitus, said method comprising administering an effective

amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from diabetes mellitus.

Claims 27-38 (Canceled)